

U. vows to be 'very sensitive' to residents of Fort Douglas

By Angelyn Nelson Hutchinson

Deseret News education writer

University of Utah officials say they will be "sensitive" to military dependents living at Fort Douglas when they take possession of at least 55 acres of the fort.

President Chase N. Peterson will soon appoint a task force of faculty, staff and students to develop a comprehensive plan for use of the fort's property and its buildings, Vice President for Administrative Services Walter P. Gnemi told the U. Institutional Council this week.

Under the Military Construction Appropriations Act, signed last week by President Bush, the U. will receive at least 55 acres of the fort from the federal government by Nov. 1, 1991. The Army will retain up to 64 acres of the fort, including the four-acre cemetery.

Included in the U.'s acreage will be 61 housing units. The military residents living in those units have expressed anger at the short notice of the transfer, saying they believed it wouldn't happen until 1993.

"The U. hopes to approach this is a very sensitive manner . . . a manner least disruptive to those folks who are living there. Simultaneously, we will try to determine the best use of the land for the U.," Gnemi said.

Gnemi said officials hope to be flexible enough in developing a transfer plan so that the residents may be able to live at the fort past the year deadline. Under the

new law's provisions, the land transfer must occur within one year.

Gnemi said he is still trying to gather all of the relevant information relating to the transfer.

But, he said, it appears the U. will receive, except for a strip of land, the bulk of fort property north of Hempstead Road. The Army will retain the property south of the Hempstead Road.

Gnemi said that means the U. will take possession of the housing units, the chapel, the officers' club, the military museum and the parade field.

Under the law's provisions, the U. must maintain and preserve the fort's buildings, which are on the National Historic Registry. It must also keep the parade field intact.

The state, possibly the National Guard, will continue to operate the military museum, Gnemi said.

While the U. is not committed to any particular use of the property, one possible suggestion, pushed by Peterson, has been the establishment of a residential college, where honors students and faculty would be housed together.

The concept, designed to promote a free exchange of ideas between faculty and students, has been pioneered successfully elsewhere.

"That's a logical use, but whether we could put in the financing and everything else that goes with it remains to be seen," Gnemi said.

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Thurs. 2.—Capt. James S. Brown's independent company (third), which had left Florence July 23th, with 46 wagons and about two hundred immigrants, arrived in G. S. L. City.

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Ref. Church Chron. p 68 →

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18 Sept 1862 They marched to the
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Mon 20 Oct 1862 Connor & Men arrived
at Fort or Camp Douglas—named for Stephen A.D.

Colonel Patrick E. Connor
Photo—courtesy Utah State Historical Society



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Beaver Creek near Bear
River 12 mi. north of Franklin
on Thurs 29 Jan 1863
Ref. Ch. Chron. p 68



GENERAL P. E. CONNOR.

perintendent of Indian affairs, took the oath of office as governor of Utah.

July. *Sat. 4.*—A fire destroyed \$3,000 worth of property belonging to Daniel H. Wells, in G. S. L. City.

Wed. 8.—The Indians attacked Canyon Station, near Deep creek, 150 miles west of G. S. L. City, killing four soldiers and Wm. Riley, the station keeper.

Thurs. 30.—Gov. Doty and Gen. Connor made a treaty of peace with the Shoshone Indians at Brigham City.

August.—The troops under command of Capt. Smith killed twelve Indians, near Schell Creek station, Tooele Co., Utah.

Mon. 3.—John F. Kinney, formerly chief justice of Utah, was elected delegate to Congress from Utah.

Fri. 7.—John Titus, of Pennsylvania, successor to John F. Kinney as chief justice of Utah, arrived in G. S. L. City; he took the oath of office on the 12th.

Sat. 29.—Capt. John R. Murdock's train of immigrants, which had left Florence June 29th, with 375 souls, arrived at G. S. L. City.

September. *Fri. 4.*—Capt. Patterson's independent train of immigrants, which had left Florence June 30th, arrived at G. S. L. City.

Sat. 5.—Capt. John E. Sanders' Church train of immigrants, which had started from Florence July 6th, arrived at G. S. L. City.

Mon. 7.—Pres. Brigham Young's woolen factory, on Canyon creek, commenced running.

Thurs. 10.—Capt. W. B. Preston's train of immigrants, which had left Florence July 9th, with 55 wagons, arrived in G. S. L. City.

Sat. 12.—Capt. John R. Young's independent train of immigrants, which had started from Florence July 7th, arrived in G. S. L. City. Several of the immigrants were killed in a cattle stampede on the plains July 28th.

Fri. 25.—Capt. Peter Nebeker's Church train of immigrants, which had started from Florence July 25th, arrived at G. S. L. City.

Wed. 30.—Capt. James Brown, formerly of the Mormon Battalion and the founder of Ogden, died from the effects of an accident, at Ogden.

October. *Thurs. 1.*—Gov. James D. Doty, of Utah, and Gov. James W. Nye, of Nevada, formed a treaty of peace with the Indians at Ruby Valley.

Sat. 3.—Capt. Daniel D. McArthur's Church train of immigrants, which had started from Florence Aug. 6th, with about seventy-five wagons, arrived at G. S. L. City.

Sun. 4.—Capt. John W. Woolley's Church train of immigrants, which had left Florence Aug. 9th, and also Capt. Thomas E. Ricks' Church train of immigrants, which had started from Florence Aug. 10th, arrived at G. S. L. City.

—Capt. Horton D. Haight's Church train of immigrants arrived at G. S. L. City.

Mon. 12.—Charles Hopkins, formerly a member of the Mormon Battalion, died at Petersburg, Millard Co.

Tues. 13.—Capt. Rosel Hyde's Church

train of immigrants, which had left Florence Aug. 11th, arrived at G. S. L. City.

Thurs. 15.—Capt. Samuel D. White's Church train of immigrants, which left Florence Aug. 15th, arrived at G. S. L. City. This was the last Church train of the season.

November. *Mon. 2.*—Robert C. Egbert, formerly a member of the Mormon Battalion, died at Deseret, Millard Co.

Fri. 20.—The first number of the *Union Vidette*, a bitter anti-Mormon newspaper, was issued at Camp Douglas, Utah.

Mon. 23.—Seth Taft, a Pioneer of 1847, died in G. S. L. City.

December. *Sat. 5.*—Ira Jones Willes, formerly a member of the Mormon Battalion, and his son, were accidentally killed while crossing a creek, near Lehi, Utah Co.

Mon. 14.—The 13th session of the Utah legislature convened in G. S. L. City, and organized by appointing Daniel H. Wells president of the Council, and John Taylor speaker of the House.

Sat. 19.—Joseph Fielding, one of the first missionaries sent from America to England, died at Mill Creek, Salt Lake Co.

Thurs. 31.—Bishop David Pettigrew, once a member of the Mormon Battalion, died in G. S. L. City.

1864.

The Perpetual Emigrating Fund Company sent 170 wagons, 1,717 oxen and 277 men to the Missouri river after the poor this year. The first mining districts were located, the first mining companies incorporated and the first smelting furnaces built in the Territory. A number of new settlements were founded in Bear Lake Valley.

January. *Tues. 5.*—The *Daily Vidette* succeeding the *Union Vidette*, was first issued at Camp Douglas, Utah. Like its predecessor, it was a bitter anti-Mormon paper.

Sat. 16.—An act passed by the Utah legislature, creating Kane and Richland Counties, was approved.

February. *Wed. 10.*—Lewis Robbins was accidentally killed while quarrying rock near St. George, Utah.

March.—Circleville, Piute Co., Utah, was settled by about fifty families from Ephraim, Sanpete Co.

Thurs. 31.—Apostle Lorenzo Snow had a very narrow escape from drowning while attempting to land at Lahaina, Maui, Hawaiian Islands, with other Elders.

April. *Fri. 1.*—Thomas Pierce and Robert Spurgeon were killed in a snowslide at the head of Mill Creek Canyon. The body of the latter was not found until May 3rd.

Tues. 5.—A small company of Saints bound for Utah, sailed from Port Elizabeth, South Africa, under the direction of John Talbot.

Wed. 6.—On this and the four following

12. During the Civil War.

1862—1865.

The California and Nevada Volunteers. The guarding of the mail route and telegraph line over the Indian-infested mountains and plains—a duty first performed by a portion of the Utah militia—was now placed upon Colonel P. E. Connor and the California and Nevada Volunteers. These troops arrived from the west in October, 1862. They had enlisted to fight for the Union in the war then going on between the North and the South, and it was much to their disappointment that they were ordered to this Territory.



GENERAL P. E. CONNOR.

Their commander, who had been a captain during the Mexican War, was one of the first to place his sword at his country's service after the breaking out of the great Rebellion. Having been made a Colonel of Infantry by the Governor of California, he had recruited